

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 EURE-00 DODE-00 NRC-05 NSAE-00

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FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 5838

INFO USDOC WASHDC PRIORITY

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USDOC FOR BEWT

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EXCON, US, UR

SUBJECT: NUMERICAL CONTROL MACHINE TOOL DELEGATIONS PROPOSED VISIT

REF: STATE 247189

1. DURING MEETING WITH ECON/COMM COUNSELOR OCTOBER 21, N.V. ZINOV'YEV, CHIEF OF ADMINISTRATION FOR TRADE WITH COUNTRIES OF THE AMERICAS, MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE (MFT), NOTED THAT HE HAD LOOKED INTO QUESTION OF VISIT PROPOSED REFTTEL AND HAD DISCUSSED WITH HIS DEPUTY, A.V. MEL'NIKOV, INITIAL CONVERSATIONS ON SUBJECT BETWEEN MEL'NIKOV AND CARL LONGLEY OF SATRA.

2. ACCORDING TO ZINOV'YEV AND MEL'NIKOV, IDEA OF MACHINE TOOL EXPERTS' TRIP HAD ARISEN SO INFORMALLY THAT SOVIETS HAVE NOT YET GIVEN IT SERIOUS ATTENTION, PARTICULARLY SINCE MEL'NIKOV HAD ASSUMED THAT IF USDOC EMPLOYEES WERE INCLUDED AS LOGLEY SUGGESTED, INITIAL REQUEST WOULD NATURALLY HAVE TO COME FROM USG. ZINOV'YEV PROMISED, NOW THAT FORMAL PROPOSAL HAS REACHED MFT, TO BRING IT TO ATTENTION OF DEPFONTRADE MIN KOMAROV (WHO WOULD BE PRINCIPAL SOVIET INVOLVED WITH GROUP BECAUSE OF HIS RESPONSIBILITY FOR EXPORTS/IMPORTS OF MACHINE
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TOOLS) AND WITH OTHER INTERESTED SOVIET PARTIES.

3. ZINOV'YEV COMMENTED THAT IN HIS PERSONAL VIEW, SOVIET PROCEDURE FOR EVALUATING PROPOSAL FOR THIS VISIT WOULD SURELY TAKE TOO LONG TO PERMIT DELEGATION TO BEGIN TRAVEL WITHIN NEXT THREE WEEKS, AND THAT IT WOULD BE MORE REALISTIC TO EXPECT SCHEDULE DELEGATION'S ARRIVAL IN SOVIET UNION FOR END NOVEMBER/ BEGINNING DECEMBER OR LATER. IN ZINOV'YEV'S VIEW (AND EMBASSY EXPERIENCE CONFIRMS THIS) PREPARATIONS AND ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATED WITH FOR SOVIET NOVEMBER 7/8 CELEBRATIONS WOULD EFFECTIVELY PRECLUDE WORTHWHILE ITINEARY AND MEETINGS FOR DELEGATION DURING FIRST TEN DAYS OF NOVEMBER.

4. IN REPLY TO ZINOV'YEV'S QUESTION, HE WAS INFORMED THAT NMTBA WOULD BE PREPARED IN PRINCIPLE TO HOST SIMILAR SOVIET DELEGATION TO US.

5. ZINOV'YEV APPRECIATES URGENCY OF US REQUEST AND NEED FOR REPLY ASAP. HE WARNED, HOWEVER, THAT AT LEAST FIVE/TEN DAYS WILL BE REQUIRED TO COORDINATE SOVIET RESPONSE.
EMBASSY WILL REPORT SOVIET REACTION
AS RECEIVED.
STOESSEL

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